

Dr. Segars has served as chair of the University of Mississippi Guardian Society, President of the Medical Alumni Association, and as a member of the Dean's Advisory Committee, University of Mississippi School of Medicine. He also is a member of the Iuka Methodist Church, where he is the Health and Welfare Representative and sits on the Administrative Board.

Dr. Segars' latest recognition as Mississippi Family Physician of the Year, by the Mississippi Academy of Family Physicians, could not have been awarded to a man more deserving of this very special recognition. Chosen from among hundreds of family physicians throughout Mississippi, Dr. Segars was nominated by a fellow physician and selected for the position by a panel of his peers. The panel clearly recognized—as have many others—that Dr. Segars' unique brand of personalized care and true concern for his patients has distinguished him as the best physician that Mississippi, and our country, has to offer.

In addition to his many professional and civic accomplishments, Dr. Segars also is an extremely successful family man. He and his wife Martha are the proud parents of three children: K. Scott Segars, Jr. M.D., and wife Diane; Mark Segars, Tishomingo County Prosecuting Attorney; and Leigh Segars, an attorney in Florida. Dr. Segars and his wife also have three grandsons: Tyler, Jake, and Thompson.

I ask my colleagues to join me today as I congratulate Dr. Kelly S. Segars as the Mississippi Family Practice Physician of the Year and wish him and his family all the best in his future as he continues as a leader in our community. On behalf of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, I thank Dr. Segars for the many things he has done for the town of Iuka, Tishomingo County, the State of Mississippi, and our great Nation.

MORE GUNS EQUALS MORE SUICIDES

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, a study by the Harvard School of Public Health brings to light disturbing information about the presence of firearms in a home. The study conducted by Drs. Matthew Miller, Deborah Azrael, and David Hemenway entitled "Household Firearm Ownership and Suicide Rates in the United States" concluded that in states where gun ownership levels are higher, a disproportionately large number of people commit suicide.

According to the study, of the more than 30,000 suicides in 1998, 57 percent involved the use of a firearm. In states with more guns, people were more likely to commit suicide. The study found that in States with a higher incidence of gun ownership people were 1.6 times more likely to commit suicide than people in states with a lower incidence of gun ownership. Further, the Harvard study shows that people 15–24 years old from states with a high incidence of gun ownership are more than four times more likely to commit suicide

than people the same age in states with a low incidence of gun ownership. According to statistics cited by the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, in 1998, more than 1200 children aged 10–19 committed suicide with firearms. Nearly two-thirds of all completed teenage suicides involve a firearm.

One step that can be taken to reduce suicides among children is to prevent easy access to guns for children. I co-sponsored Senator DURBIN's Child Access Prevention Act because it would do just that. Under this bill, adults who fail to lock up loaded firearms or an unloaded firearm with ammunition could be held liable if a weapon is taken by a child and used to kill or injure him or herself or another person. The bill would also increase the penalties for selling a gun to a juvenile and create a gun safety education program that includes parent-teacher organizations, local law enforcement and community organizations. This bill is similar to legislation President Bush signed into law as Governor of Texas. I support this bill and I believe it is a meaningful step in the right direction. It's clear that reducing child access to guns can save lives.

NATIONAL POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, today is National POW/MIA Recognition Day.

I rise on this special day to remember and honor those brave Americans who during past armed engagements in defense of this nation or our alliances were prisoners of war and those who are still listed missing in action. As a nation, we set aside this day to further recognize the sacrifices of the restless families of these fine patriots, assuring them that we have not forgotten.

In the past year, our dedicated Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines have again taken up the mantle of freedom; this time to prosecute an elusive and dangerous enemy. They have ousted an oppressive regime in Afghanistan and continue to hunt those implicated in the war on terrorism. Like generations before them, these Americans have sworn an oath to support and defend the Constitution. As a former Navy officer, I feel strongly that the United States government has a similarly strong obligation to these men and women who serve in the Armed Forces. Specifically, we must work to ensure the return of POWs and MIAs at the end of hostilities. We must not rest until all American POW/MIAs are returned and accounted for, and the many questions that have overwhelmed their families are answered.

The vigorous pursuit of this commitment must continue through on-site investigations being undertaken in Indochina and through a fuller examination of records in Russia, Iraq and Southeast Asia. For in our history, we recall somberly today that while thousands died, many others endured years in starved, tortured, isolated misery before regaining their freedom. Their perseverance, integrity and heroism

are shining examples of the core values on which this nation was founded and became great.

A year ago, Americans were sifting through smoldering rubble at the Pentagon and at the site of the twin towers looking for their comrades in arms. Those actions have ceased, but around the world, others continue to sift through long-silent war zones to find and identify remains of the fallen and the missing.

The Department of Defense Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Office has had considerable successes in the past year, but we still have much to accomplish before our responsibility to all the POWs and MIAs is fulfilled. Just this year, we have identified the remains of 46 Americans who served in the Vietnam War. Unfortunately, there are still 1,907 unaccounted Americans who served in Vietnam. Also this year, 32 Americans have been repatriated who served in the Korean War, while over 8,100 remain unaccounted for. And, through hard work and determination in the past year, the DPMO has recovered the remains of eight Americans who served in the Second World War. 78,750 Americans who served in World War II are as yet accounted.

It is important to remember that this is a cooperative effort and requires commitments from all branches of our government as well as the countries where the servicemen remain missing. Negotiations in the past six years with North Korea have yielded many successes. One search operation continues even today in North Korea and a third and final operation for the year will begin on September 28, concluding October 29.

According to the Department of Defense, America has had 23 operations since 1996 to locate MIA's in North Korea. These missions are all possible because of cooperation and negotiation with North Korea. Let this cooperation be an example to all of what can be accomplished when we work together.

Today, I want to pay special tribute to the dedication and service of the soldiers from my home State of Indiana who are or were POW/MIAs from the Vietnam War and the Korean War.

These great Americans and their families have the gratitude of this free Nation. I urge the Senate, the administration, the Departments of Defense and State, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the National Security Agency to redouble their efforts to bring our soldiers home as quickly as possible. Let us all take heart from the POW/MIA flag, displayed in the Capitol rotunda, which proclaims: "You Are Not Forgotten."

I ask unanimous consent that the names of Indiana's missing and unaccounted from the Korea and Vietnam Wars be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows: